United Nations A/C.2/56/L.46

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 November 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: international strategy for disaster reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Dharmansjah Djumala (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.12

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the signing of the memorandum of cooperation between the Republic of Ecuador and the World Meteorological Organization[1] constitutes a major step in the process for the establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon,

Also noting the contributions made by regional and global climate-study organizations and specialized Internet information services, which have led to improved scientific understanding and prediction capabilities in the area of climate variability,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Commends* the measures adopted by the host country for the establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon,

[1] A/C.2/56/2, appendix.
[2] A/56/76-E/2001/54.

01-67180 (E) 301101

and encourages the Government of Ecuador to continue its efforts aimed at the completion of this process;

3. *Encourages* the centre, once established, to strengthen its links with other relevant regional and global climate-study organizations, as well as with Internet information services, on this issue in order to ensure an effective and efficient use of the available resources;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and encourages the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to support the establishment of the above-mentioned research centre at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to studying the El Niño phenomenon;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of the working group on Climate and Disasters, and invites the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to ensure functional synergies among the working groups dealing with climate variability, social and economic vulnerability, and effectiveness of early warning systems;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200, 53/185, 54/220 and 55/197 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46, 1999/63 and 2000/33;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".